# EYAKECHO

Native Village of Eyak promotes sobriety...

Published in Cordova, Alaska 99574 / December 2001

### Gov Knowles Proclaims Sobriety Celebration of Cordova/Eyak Day

In his executive proclamation of sobriety before the Native Village of Eyak's 8th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch began, Alaska Governor Tony Knowles said, "Abuse and misuse of alcohol is a serious health and social concern which affects and impacts family members and harms entire communities."

The Native Village of Eyak continued to promote sobriety the weekend of Nov 9 through 11 with social gatherings and education. The Sobriety Celebration had social events such as Native dancing, music, arts and crafts, inspirational speakers, the honoring of elders, youth and veterans, as well as a community potlatch.

The annual, and becoming traditional, celebration of sobriety was held at Cordova High School this year, making use of the commons area, hallways and gymnasium. Knowles said that the gathering "provides communities an opportunity to celebrate the good things in life without the influence of alcohol."

Governor Knowles proclaimed November 10, 2001, as *Sobriety Celebration of Eyak Day* in Alaska, and encouraged all citizens to join the community-wide commitment to aid and educate Alaskans concerning alcohol and substance abuse.

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"agnguahwik" dance hall

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"So Help Me God" — There Is Help For Those Who Want It

Native Village of Eyak Contact Information



Cordova's **Ikumat** (sea otter) Alutiiq Dancers Glenora Zimmer, Amanda Ludwig and Belen Cook dressed in their **kuspuks** (Native dresses) dance the Aayautanga (long-distance ride) using caribou hair and beach grass fans.



"Kistags (bugs) in the steambath" — Alutiiq dancers from the Prince William Sound village of Tatitlek enjoy performing their version of "Bugs in the Barnyard" From left to right are Nanci Lee Kompkoff, Rami Totemoff, Angelique Gregorieff, Jamie Lee Gregorieff and Kerry Kompkoff.



# Non-Alcoholic Atmosphere Prevails at Sobriety Festival

Several who attended the 8th Annual Sobriety Celebration commented on the weekend activity. Among them were Exenia Gregorieff of Tatitlek.

"We had such a fantastic time during the celebration. That was our second time attending. I couldn't believe the friendliness, helpfulness and how courteous everyone was. The crafts were outrageous; the food, oh my goodness, was delicious! Plenty of it all over; lots of friends, new and old. I loved it all! The dances were outrageous. I loved the ones from Juneau. The celebration sure meant a lot to my son. He enjoyed everything, especially the dance groups," said Gregorieff.

(See the Evaluation Summary, page 7 for more comments.)



Barbara Olsen, left, receives a foodbasket from Nils Olson and Lorelie Haukness. The NVE distributed baskets to tribal members who are 55 and/or older just before Thanksgiving.

#### Foodbaskets delivered

### 'Butterballs' Make For Happy Turkey Day Among Elders

Fifty-two Native Village of Eyak (NVE) elders had turkeys, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, rolls, vegetables, cranberry sauce, pie and juice delivered to them just before Thanksgiving by NVE staff members Altana Olsen, Sally Sanculi, Myra Allen and a community volunteer, Lorelie Haukness.

Myra Allen, Community Health Representative, said that any NVE tribal member who is 55 or older can receive a food basket. In the past some qualified members did not want to be on the recipient list. If there are some tribal members who wish to be on the list of recipients, please contact Myra at 7738.

"We enjoy doing this very much because it makes the people happy, and their being happy makes us happy," said Allen.

We get 'thank you' cards from many of those who receive the baskets. This opens doors for communication and enables us to build relationship with our elders," she said.

Allen went on to say, "NVE makes a special effort to make our elders feel special, because they ARE special."

### **Opinion...**Bob Henrichs, NVE President

It was two or three years ago that Bob Malone, then President of Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. came to Eyak/Cordova to meet with our Tribe. At that time he told us that the Ships Escort Response Vessel System (SERVS) Vessel Contracts would be put out for bid when it expired and that Native Village of Eyak would have a chance to compete for it.

It was a couple of months ago that we were told that the contract had been sole sourced to Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU) last year.

In Chenega and Tatitlek the contracts go to Tribal members and are administered by the Tribes. We have brought this up with Alyeska several times. As the largest Tribe in Prince William Sound, with over 500 members, we deserve to have more of our Tribal members get vessel contracts with those contracts being administered through the NVE office. This is not an unreasonable request.

For Alyeska to continue to ignore us is disrespectful to NVE and its members. For the past ten thousand years we have been treated as second class citizens in our Traditional Homeland, Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta and the gulf of Alaska.



First caller wins a Handmade Christmas Ornament made by Mary Babic

Prince William Sound Alutiiq

"Kinguglia Ukssum Tanquia"

What does it mean? Call Nils at 424-7738.



"Cheeng-ah-hanga" ...
...under the mistletoe!



# Native Village of Fyak's 8th Annual Sobriety Celebration

#### **Evaluation Summary**

This is a summary of evaluations submitted by people who attended Cordova, Alaska's Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch on November 9-11, 2001.

The Native Village of Eyak would like to thank each and every sponsor who so generously donated the finances, food, housing, doorprizes and time to make this year's celebration one of its most memorable since it began over eight years ago.

Your continued support and encouragement in these celebrations is greatly appreciated. The following responses are a direct result of your contributions.

People who attended this year's celebration came from not only the local community and many other areas including Juneau, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Yakutat, Homer, Valdez, Port Graham, Tatitlek, Upper Tanana, Mentasta Lake, Copper Center, Chitina, Gulkana, Chistochina, Klawak and Prudhoe Bay.

# Asked what things they like about this year's Sobriety Celebration, people commented:

- ◆ The educational presentation on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) by Ruthe Schoder-Ehri from the Chugachmiut Healthy Start Program.
- The music! It was good for the kids' learning to have fun without alcohol.
- The sense of how people supported each other; the friendliness of the different groups and how hard the people worked to put this together.
- The freedom to dance in a non-alcoholic atmosphere.
- The warm hospitality from Cordova friends, coffee and tea all day, eager and helpful van shuttles. "Thanks to the fried bread chef!"
- Heartfelt stories by Victor Joseph, Director of the Old Minto Recovery Camp and Alaska State Senator Georgianna Lincoln.
- The presence of youth.
- "What I liked most was being able to dance with the people of different tribes."
- "All the dance groups coming together, the speakers, great food and most of all the great connections made by people from different areas of our



Juneau's Yun Shu Ka dancer **Dolly Kvande** shows that God is a part of Tlinget culture as dancers sang and danced "Amazing Grace" during the Sobriety Celebration here in Cordova Nov. 9-11..

#### **How Important?**

Transportation takes us to the land around us, the land that belongs to us and our forefathers, the land

that gives us the things we need. The land we understand. Transportation takes us to the land we know.

state." (continued on page four)

■ "We had such a fantastic time during the celebration. That was our second time attending out of the eight years. I couldn't believe the friendliness, the helpfulness and how courteous everyone was. The crafts were awesome; the food, oh my goodness, was delicious! Plenty of it all over; lots of friends new and old; I loved it all! The dances were wonderful, and I (particularly) loved the Juneau ones. It was my first time seeing them."

#### People were asked to tell us about their own Sobriety Celebration experience:

- "I'm so blessed to see (hear) other people talking about their coming off drugs and alcohol."
- "I've been sober twelve years."
- "I see that being around all these sober, healthy people is inspiring. The food was fabulous."
- "The staff who did the Domestic Violence workshop really knew their business."
- "I quit drinking about ten years ago and never really thought it was such a big deal. But seeing the destruction it does around me to loved ones, especially the kids, has made me realize that, yes, we all have to stand up and make the kids realize the importance of a sober life."
- "It was good to see the youth involved with the elders."
- "It was truly a sobering experience."

## Asked what subjects, topics and events people would like to see in future celebrations, answers included: Other village dance groups.

- Interactive crafts classes.
- Workshop on effects of alcohol on the body, as well as the family.
- More detailed information on drug-alcohol effects.
- Workshop for children of alcoholic parents.
- Workshop on hazards of smoking and inhalants.
- A Native Gospel Sing-Along.
- Local pastors and church participation.



# Elder's Tea

December 19, 2001 (Wednesday) Masonic Hall, AM 11:00

Guest speaker: <u>Virginia Lacy</u>
With a presentation about her father, Pete Nicholoff and the significant impact he made to the history of Prince William Sound.

# Housing Meeting

December 14, 2001 (Friday) AM 11:00 to PM 3:00 Masonic Hall

Soup and sandwiches will be provided for lunch.

All tribal, community and housing com-



# We Can't Look Ahead Without Understanding of Our Past

**By Mary Babic** *Mary is one of NVE's Cultural Coordina-*

tors. You can reach her at the office 424-7738 / FAX 424-7739, or e-mail at: mbabic@tribalnet.org.

"We all have Elders, ancestors, and a cultural heritage. Once we know our past, we have taken a step in understanding ourselves, and we will be able to strengthen our truths, bringing about changes for the better. The wisdom of our Elders is a gift from the past offered as a key to the future, if we take time to listen." (Quote by Dave Bouchard, 'The Elders Are Watching').

The Elder's Teas have been a part of the Native Village of Eyak for several years now. It all began when the Alutiiq language, history and heritage curriculum was forming and advice from the Elders was the major component in developing the curriculum. Great ideas and delicious Native foods were exchanged and the Elder's Teas continue today.

Now the Cordova High School Eyak class joins the Elders at the teas. The students really enjoy gathering fish, berries and other subsistence foods to prepare and share with the Elders. The students have made jellies, jams, canned deer meat, canned salmon, cranberry sauce, blueberry pies, salmon patties and many other dishes to share with the Elders at the teas. Everyone seems to enjoy themselves very much and there is a bridge building between the youth and the Elders. It is a great feeling to hear all the interaction going on between all the people.

An idea that was brought up by one of the Elders at the last tea was calling it an "Elder's Mug Up" so that more MEN would attend.

The next Elder's Tea will be held on Wednesday, December 19th at the Masonic Hall from 11 AM.







# We're Building Our Museum

**By LaRue Barnes** 

LaRue is another one of NVE's

Cultural Coordinators. She and Mary are coordinating the project of the new museum to be completed early next spring. LaRue can be reached at the office, 7738, or lbarnes@tribalnet.org.

The Ilanka Cultural Center will be looking to the members of the Native Village of Eyak for the backbone of its museum collection. We are looking for items that tell the history and life of our people for collection, documentation and display.

If you have some object(s) or collection that you have been saving that tells a story of the prehistory or history of our people and would be interested in loaning or donating to our Culture Center, please contact me at the NVE office. The Collections Committee will help decide what items will be displayed to educate our people, community and visitors about Eyak traditions, skills and material culture.

We are getting excited as we approach construction completion. We are privileged to have as one of our first exhibits the *Dolly Spencer Alaskan Doll Collection* and an *Alaskan/Siberian Kayak Model Collection* on loan from the Alaska State Museum.



#### Ilanka Health Center

Marilyn Eaton PA, Tel. 3622 e-mail: meaton@tribalnet.org

We are busy giving flu shots and have given almost 200 so far this year. Remember, anyone can now have a flu shot, and in fact, it has been recommended by the CDC so that influenza can be ruled out in the event of an anthrax scare in Alaska.

We are gearing up to start a walking program in the early spring. We can positively affect our health by increasing exercise, which that walking program is designed to encourage. For more information, give us a call.

*llanka* — "Wellne*ss*"

### HOUSING

### Report

Vera Allen is NVE's Housing Coordinator. She can be reached at the NVE Office by calling 424-7738/FAX 424-7739. Her e-mail is vallen@tribalnet.org.



Well's Fargo Bank says there's...

# Help for Alaska Natives to Borrow

Wells Fargo Bank has said they want to make Title VI work for their customers.

WHAT: Wells Fargo will soon introduce a new program that will enable us to make loans to tribally designated housing entities and guaranteed by Title VI of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) at very preferential interest rates.

WHY: To help more Native families find decent, affordable homes on trust land and in Native Alaska villages by offering lower interest rates that would otherwise not be available.

**WHERE:** Anywhere in Alaska to a Title VI qualifying project.

**WHO:** For further information, contact Jim McCormack, Jerry Weaver or Jan Sieberts at (907) 265-2878. You may also contact your nearest branch of the Wells Fargo Bank.

Tim O'Neal, Chairman of the Federal Home Finance Board, formally announced this program at the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle's Advisory Council meeting in Bethel, AK in August.

### For your information:

The Native Village of Eyak's Housing Program has been updated and is doing well. The Housing Coordinator has attended several seminar/workshops that have helped in the updating of the operation for the entire housing program. The Annual Performance Reports (APR) and the Indian Housing Plans are also current. (see next column) FYI...

# Tribal Biologist Added to NVE

Mike Lambert joined the NVE Staff in October as the Tribal Biologist. He can be reached at 424-7738. E-mail: mlambert@tribalnet.org.



"Having a biologist on staff devoted to the fisheries resource monitoring projects will be a great asset," said Kate Williams, NVE Director of Environmental Programs.

Prior to working for the NVE, Lambert worked for the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon on the Hood River, a tributary of the Columbia River. He worked for seven years as the Fisheries Project Leader coordinating and implementing field activities for the Hood River Production Program designed to rehabilitate summer and winter steelhead and reestablish spring chinook salmon runs.

Mike said, "I want to say how wonderful the community of Cordova has been to me and my family. We have been welcomed in to the community by many and have enjoyed the natural beauty of our surroundings."

Lambert said he is looking forward to working with the NVE tribal members, the community and other agency staff in managing and protecting the natural resources that everyone enjoys and relies upon for subsistence, recreation and livelihood.

"If anyone has a specific concern in regards to fish and wildlife issues, please come by or phone the office and I'll be glad to discuss it," said Lambert.

**<u>FYI...</u>**We have *Home Improvement Applications* for water, sewer and garbage for the Scattered Sites Project. Pick up an application from Vera at the office.

### ST. ANN'S SISTERHOOD

### **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

December 15, 2001 (Saturday) Masonic Hall

# Environmental Zapdates

NVE's Tribal Environmental Outreach Assistant is **Altana Olsen**. Her NVE office number is 424-7738, or e-mail her at: aolsen@tribalnet.org.



'Past and Future Resources'

# First Environmental Education Curriculum Unit Pilot-tested at Mount Eccles Elementary School

By Altana Olsen

Cordova's Mt Eccles Elementary teacher, Sandy Poor's fourth grade classroom was the first class to pilottest the Native Village of Eyak's Environmental Education Curriculum. Twenty-two students watched the videotape "Nourished by our Food...Sustained by our Traditions", for

A firsthand look at our ancestors' way of life. The videotape was produced by Chugachmiut's Department of Education. Discussions included Subsistence Lifestyles, the communities around Prince William Sound, the Ice Cream Song, Search Timeline, story telling and a visit to an elders' tea. During the last class, students constructed their own *barabaras* (dwellings).

#### Future Pilot Testing to Include:

- Water Unit Course with Tim Walters, and Natural History of Prince William Sound.
- Birds Unit with Gretchen Baughman's third grade class.
- Wetlands with Jay Beaudin's fifth grade class.
- Subsistence Unit with Mary Babic's Eyak Class.
- Recycling with Gayle Belgarde's frist grade class.

#### You can help...

I am interested in any old used jars and packaging materials to use in demonstrations about recycling and reducing for the upcoming Recycling Unit.

If you have any information on the history of Cordova's Eyak Lake, please get in touch with me. The Water Unit will be another curriculum to be tested in the near future.



The second year of the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) grant will include developing two more units and implementing their curriculum during the third year. The units will be constructed with input from tribal members.



We wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year.

The Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council & Staff



# **Environmental/Natural Resource Updates**

This update is by **Kate Williams**, NVE's Director of Environmental and Natural Resource Programs. Kate can be reached at 7738 or e-mail: kwilliams@tribalnent.org.



#### NVE completes the first four years of the Environmental Program!

September 30 marked the end of the first four years of the environmental program. This was marked with the publication of the 32 page report: "Implementing Environmental and Natural Resource Programs: The First Four Years 1997-2001". The report outlines all of the program's progress including individual projects, significant events and accomplishments and research partnerships. For a copy of the report, send an email to kwilliams@tribalnet.org or drop by the office.

#### Tribal oversight of spill cleanup and response this summer

On August 4, 2001, the 180' fishing tender "Windy Bay" ran aground near Olsen Island spilling 35,000 gallons of diesel fuel. A Unified Command was established with federal and state on-scene coordinators from the US Coast Guard and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. The area was subsequently closed to fishing and aquaculture use areas nearby were boomed off. The airspace above the impacted area was restricted to all but those involved in the cleanup effort. As news of the spill spread, the Tribal Council expressed concern that the Tribe was not being consulted regarding potential impacts and response efforts. Possible impacts to this traditional and customary use area were unknown. On August 9 and on subsequent overflights, representatives of the Tribal Council and Tribal members and staff gained access to restricted air space to determine the extent of the spill, clean up efforts and possible effects to marine life and wildlife. Consultation with the Coast Guard provided opportunities for concerns to be communicated. A final inspection on August 21 revealed no evidence of diesel fuel in prior impacted and cleaned beaches. Tribal oversight of the response and clean up efforts was a necessity to insure that the concerns of Tribal members were communicated and appropriately addressed. The Bureau of Indian Affairs supported the Native Village of Eyak in this effort through emergency funding.

#### Eyak Lake Waterbody Assessment final report completed this fall

Seawan Gehlbach and Iris O'Brien, together with NVE's consultant HDR Alaska, sampled Eyak Lake's water and sediment at three locations on August 10. Parameters sampled included everything from fecal coliform, and total dissolved and suspended solids, to heavy metals, pH, benzene, and toluene, just to name a few. In general, Eyak Lake appears to be a healthy waterbody. According to the final report, dissolved oxygen levels and physical and chemical features commonly measured in water appear to support fish and wildlife populations and some previous problems with water and sediment quality may have been remedied. However, some new issues have surfaced such as the presence of diesel range organics in the north arm near Power Creek road and metal concentrations in sediment. Further examination of mercury levels is necessary because levels in water and sediment were near those set by State of Alaska Water Quality Standards for drinking water and the Canadian Sediment Quality Guidelines for the protection of aquatic life (there are currently no US sediment quality guidelines). Mercury is a toxic metal that affects the nervous system and kidneys. Sources can be natural mineral deposits, industrial and chemical manufacturing and fungicide. It is not known whether mercury levels are naturally occurring in the lake or caused by humans. It is essential that regular monitoring of the Lake continue. This is part of an Action Plan for the Environmental Program. With funding from the EPA and the BIA, the Tribe will continue to monitor water resources.

#### The Orca Project

Mark King was selected to perform work for the rearticulation and display of the salvaged killer whale skeleton. With his intense involvement with the project since the initial stranding of the killer whale in the summer of 2000, and past experience doing research with The Alaska Sea Otter and Stellar Sea Lion Commission, it was a natural fit to have him head up the project. The work will be accomplished with funding from the Oil Spill Recovery Institute and through a Memorandum of Agreement with the Prince William Sound Science Center. The final display will be part of the Native Village of Eyak's Cultural Center adjacent to the Ilanka Clinic.



# White Robe Used at Peaceful SE Native G a t h e r i n g s

"I was the dancer in the white robe," said Bob Ridley, a member of the Juneau Yun Shu Kaa dance group who participated in the 8th Annual Sobriety Celebration here in Cordova Nov. 9-11.

"Each of us wears a dance robe with different crests in traditional colors that are either black on red or red on black. I chose red on white. In a book titled 'Robes of Power: Totem Poles of Cloth', by Doreen Jensen and Polly Sargent, there was a brief explanation about the white robe. It was used here in southeast Alaska when the tribes were gathering together during times of peace," Ridley said.



Bob went on to say that people who attended the Sobriety Celebration may have noticed as they danced that the men stood in front of the women. This was not only for show, but because in the old days, the men stood in front of the women to protect them.

"The dancers move in time with the drummer and they feed from the loudness of the drum. The drummer in turn feeds off the men's power moves," said Ridley. (continued on page 12 -- Bob also related...)

## Donations from Far and Near Boost Sobriety Celebration

This year's Native Village of Eyak's Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch was supported by donations and grants from various people and organizations including the US Government, the State of Alaska, private citizens and local businesses. This annual celebration of sobriety would not be possible without these supporters. Your patronage of these sponsors and local businesses is greatly appreciated.

North Pacific Processors, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Alaska Accounting Solutions, Alaska Realty, Alyeska Pipeline, Best Western Hotels, BP, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Cheesh-Na Tribal Council, Copper Mountain Foundation, Cordova Electric Cooperative, Cordova Labor Hall Association, Corrine Erickson, Enchanted Gardens Lodging, Gilbert Urata, Housing of Urban Development Drug Elimination Program, Newhouse & Vogler Auditors, Ocean Beauty Processors, Phillips Alaska, Prince william sound Aqua Culture, Prince William Sound Science Center, SerendipiTea, Thomas Mazonna, Women of The Moose, States West Life Insurance, Cordova Lodge, Qutekcak Native Tribe, Prime Select, Wells Fargo Bank, The Barn, Cordova Chamber of Commerce and many others who donated their personal time, finances and encouragement.

# Candlelight Vigil Brings Healing to Participant

The NVE office received the following letter expressing one participant's sobriety experience:

"I would like thank (name withheld) for sending me to the Sobriety Celebration.

I enjoyed being around others (at the celebration) who are staying sober and living in a rural community.

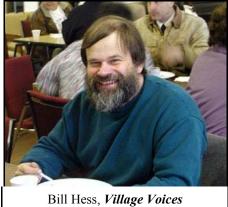
I had a very healing experience while at the celebration. I never felt able to express the feelings of grief that I have carried all of these years. The candlelight vigil gave me an opportunity to let these go.

I can't find the words to express my gratitude for letting me attend. Thanks again."



#### 8th Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch November 9 - 11, 2001





Bill Hess, *Village Voices*A picture of the picture taker!



Mary Babic & Belen Cook Cordova



Devon Totemoff, Tatitlek Beads A Flying



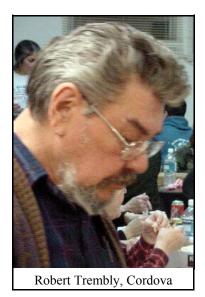
Cordova Ikumat Alutiiq dancers invite the crowd to participate as they sing the Eyak Song



Ruthe Schoder-Ehri Chugachmiut Healthy Start Program



Joe Lind of Premium Blend Band & Senator Georgianna Lincoln listen to heart-moving presentations at the Sobriety Celebration.

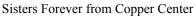




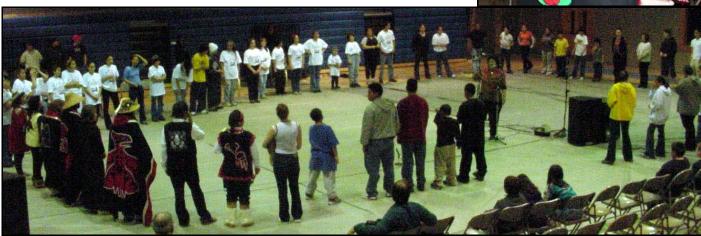


Yakutat Dancers - Top/Bottom









All Dance Groups dance to the Haida Dinner Song, a song shared by the Juneau Yun Shu Kaa dancers. Dance groups from Tatitlek, Cordova, Juneau, Copper Center and Yakutat



























Staying Sober...

# So Help Me God, I Can Do It

By Nils Olson

When asked, 'What subjects, topics or events would you suggest for future Sobriety Celebrations?', one person wrote on their evaluation form:

"Local pastors' and church participation. There is more than just saying 'no' to drinking. We need God's help in this fight.

Alcohol, when it becomes a controlling and ruling factor in one's daily life, leads to more than just drinking. Things that 'tag along' with drinking can be uncontrollable rages of anger, verbal abuse, emotional and mental abuse, drug and even sexual abuse.

Many times one's own determination to stop these things becomes in vain. The vicious cycle continues. It is because alcohol has become 'supreme in authority'. Alcohol has become the alcoholic's 'master', 'lord' and 'controller'. Then what is the answer for being set free from these controlling, abusing elements in one's life?

We have researched many 'sayings' and 'principles' from the Word of God, many of which some AA groups use in their steps to recovery for the alcoholic. As you read them, perhaps you will be helped not only in your personal recovery from alcohol, but from many other of life's problems you might face on a daily basis.

The Son of God said, "No man can serve two masters. He will either hate the one, and love the other, or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other." In other words, choices must be made.

It has been said, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

King David said, "Through God we shall do valiantly for it is He who shall tread down our enemies."

Jesus said in the last night before His crucifixion, "...for without Me you can do nothing."

The Apostle Paul said, "...and I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who hath enabled me..."

The Galatian Letter quotes Paul as saying, "I am crucified with *Christ*: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but *Christ lives in me*: and the life which I now live in the flesh (my physical life) *I live by the faith of the Son of God*, **WHO LOVED ME**, and gave Himself for me."

The love of God melts what a hammer cannot break. We try and try in our own strength to break what has been binding us, perhaps for years and years, but God's love is the only thing that can melt it away. Where can one find God's love, anyway? It's found in Christ Jesus, *the Lord*.

The person who has been set free from alcohol can say, "What can separate me from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" (or alcohol?)

"No," he says, "in all these things I am more than a conqueror *through Him that loved me*. I am persuaded that neither death, life, angels, principalities, powers, things present, things to come, height, depth or any other creature shall be able to separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus *my Lord*."

The truth sets a person free. These words are truth and will set you free, if you make the choice to serve God and make Him your Lord.

# The Native Village of Eyak 7ribal Council...

President Robert Henrichs
Vice-President John Mark Hoover
Secretary/Treasurer Mark King
Council Member Mike Webber
Council Member Glenn Ujioka
... working together to oversee our tribal unity,
subsistence, employment, health-care
and cultural pride.

### Native Village of Eyak Staff

Executive Director, Bruce Cain Administrative Assistant, Glenora Zimmer Receptionist/Office Assistant, Sally Sanculi Bookkeeper, Florissa Espejo Controller, Larry White CHR/CHC, Myra Allen Housing Coordinator, Vera Allen ICWA Coordinator, Wendie Smith Cultural Coordinator, LaRue Barnes Cultural Coordinator, Mary Babic Maintenance, Joe Cook Support System, Tom Andersen Ilanka Physician's Assistant, Marilyn Eaton Ilanka Office Manager, Cindy Graham Environmental Programs, Kate Williams Environmental Planner, Seawan Gehlbach Environmental Education, Altana Olsen Housekeeping, Arleene Olsen

# The Eyak Echo ...

is published by The Native Village of Eyak P.O. Box 1388, Cordova, Alaska 99574 Tel (907) 424-7738 / FAX (907) 424-7739

Submissions and suggestions for articles can be sent to the office for future publication.

E-Mail: gzimmer@tribalnet.org

#### White Robe (continued from page nine)

Bob also related that he is a Vietnam veteran and lost his brother in Vietnam as well. When he saw the story about the "white robe", he chose to make a white robe in honor of his brother, as well as to show that he wants to be at peace in his heart with all people.

Ridley was raised to show all people respect and still wishes to carry on the love and respect that his parents and grandparents taught him.

For reader's information, "Robes of Power: Totem Poles of Cloth", is available from internet bookstore amazon.com and the Hearthside Bookshop in Juneau.



**Turning one's back** is not rude in Tlinget culture. Yun Shu Kaa dancers all turned their backs on the audience at the Sobriety Celebration to show respect and honor by showing their clancrests.

#### RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS

Starring January 7-9, 2002 (Monday thru Wednesday)



"Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit!"